## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the application of:

MERRIL et al.

Serial Number: 08/879,139

Filed: June 19, 1997

80 DEC 1 2 1997

Group Art Unit: 1804

Examiner: Unknown

For: ANTIBACTERIAL THERAPY WITH BACTERIOPHAGE GENOTYPICALLY

MODIFIED TO DELAY INACTIVATION BY THE HOST DEFENSE SYSTEM

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

December 12, 1997

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. patent application, please enter the following amendments.

## **IN THE CLAIMS**:

Kindly cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims to the application.

31. A method for treating an infectious disease caused by a bacteria, in a

human patient, comprising:

administering to a patient in need of such treatment, a lytic or non-lytic bacteriophage that is specific for said bacteria in a dosage effective to substantially eliminate the bacteria, wherein said bacteriophage has a longer half-life in the patient's

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